

SECRET/EXDISSALT TWO
SESSION 1
A-84MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION
U.S. SALT DELEGATION
GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

DATE: December 14, 1972

TIME: 1900-1930 Hours

PLACE: Soviet Reception,
Soviet Mission

SUBJECT: SALT - SCC

PARTICIPANTS: US

USSR

Mr. S. N. Graybeal

Mr. V. V. Smolin
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

After a brief exchange of pleasantries, I asked Smolin if he had received any word from Moscow regarding our SCC activities. He merely smiled and shrugged his shoulders, but did not respond. When I said that I expected to have some word from Washington tomorrow which might make it desirable to have a meeting of our Working Group, Smolin was visibly shaken, and immediately asked if I anticipated any problems requiring change in language. I said that my Government is making a very thorough review and that I expected some very minor editorial suggestions on the Memorandum of Understanding and some possible changes to the "Regulations" which would be primarily for clarification purposes. Smolin said that minor editorial changes not requiring change in the Soviet language would pose no problem; however, in a very serious and concerned vein, he said that changes requiring us to reconvene our Working Group would call too much attention to the changes, and that any language changes which would have to be referred to Moscow would be "very bad." I reassured him that I did not expect that any of the suggested changes in the Memorandum of Understanding would involve substance; they would probably merely be editorial. I further reminded him that the "Regulations" were merely guidelines for the SCC to establish its own regulations in accordance with Article V of the Memorandum of Understanding and therefore we should attempt to make these guidelines as clear as possible; the possible changes I expected in the Regulations would be for clarification purposes.

Throughout this conversation Smolin appeared quite worried and at times visibly shaken at the possibility of having to reconvene our Joint SCC Working Group, and more importantly having to refer any language changes back to Moscow. At one point in the conversation he said that "Minister Semenov will be discussing our activities with Amb. Smith this evening."

State Dept. review completed

SALDEL:SNGraybeal:bjg

SECRET/EXDIS